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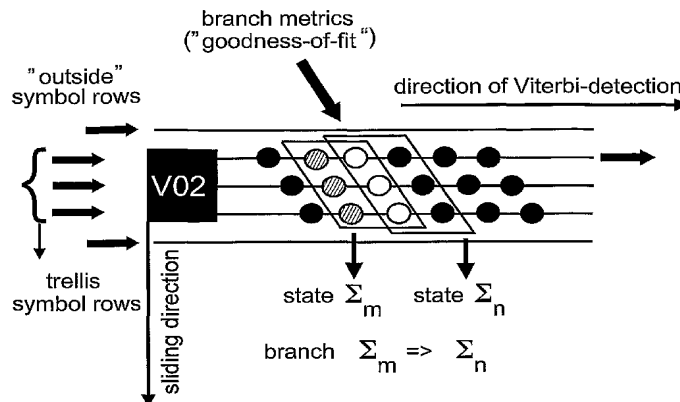
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(54) Title: TWO-DIMENSIONAL SYMBOL DETECTOR FOR ONE-DIMENSIONAL SYMBOL DETECTION



(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to a symbol detection apparatus for detecting the symbol values of a one-dimensional channel data stream recorded along one-dimensional contiguous tracks on a record carrier, wherein the symbols of adjacent tracks have a varying phase relation. In order to enable the use of a 2D symbol detection scheme for symbol detection of the symbol values of a one-dimensional channel data stream, an apparatus is proposed comprising: a phase detection means (31) for detecting the phase relation of the symbols of at least two adjacent tracks, a processing means (30) for determining HF reference levels at the symbol positions of the symbols of said at least two adjacent tracks by recalculating an ideal two-dimensional target HF impulse response ( $g_{k,2D}$ ) of the symbols of said at least two adjacent tracks, said ideal two-dimensional target HF impulse response ( $g_{k,2D}$ ) representing an HF impulse response assuming no phase difference between the symbols of said at least two adjacent tracks, based on the detected phase relation, and 2D symbol detection means (6) for symbol detection of the symbols of at least one of said at least two adjacent tracks using said HF reference levels ( $REF_{k,i}$ ) and HF signal values ( $HF_{k,i}$ ) read-out from said record carrier.

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